

OCC 63-1207 a

file 201

Mr. J. Walter Yeagley
Assistant Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Yeagley:

I am sorry to hear that you are ill. I have the following information on Santiago ALVARDE Rodriguez:

His full name is Santiago Juan Antonio ALVARDE Rodriguez, and he was born in Matanzas, Cuba, on 25 July 1907. He is a medical doctor by profession, and was formerly Governor of Matanzas Province, Congressman and Senator under former President Fulgencio Batista.

Mr. ALVARDE has a rather lengthy history of participation in anti-Castro activities which dates back to 1957 when he was involved with the training of approximately 400 Cuban exiles on one of the keys off the Mexican coast.

In early 1961, Mr. ALVARDE enlisted with the counterrevolutionary forces which were being formed in Miami, Florida; however, due primarily to his age, he was not used during the Bay of Pigs invasion attempt.

Mr. ALVARDE's boat, the ALISAN, was reportedly used on many occasions by exile groups for transporting arms, ammunition and supplies to anti-Castro rebels in Cuba. In November 1961 this Agency provided gasoline and some arms to a small group of Cuban exiles headed by Enrique CASADO who, with the use

of the ALISAN, infiltrated a Cuban G-2 Lieutenant and his family from Cuba. Enrique CASADO has been active in maritime operations for many years, first against Batista and later against Castro. This has been the extent of our interest or use of the ALISAN.

Aside from the support to the ALISAN on one occasion this Agency has had no connection with Mr. ALVAREZ nor has it ever employed him. We have noted that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has additional information on Mr. ALVAREZ.

Sincerely,

Lawrence R. Houston
General Counsel

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Rewritten: OGC/LRH:mks (29 April 1953)

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